

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A ~~device that is connected with a network, said device~~ printing apparatus comprising:

a timer that measures an elapsed time based on a base time point;

a network communication module that communicates with another apparatus ~~connecting with the network to provide a specified service~~ via a network, wherein the another apparatus manages the printing apparatus;

a time acquisition module that acquires an absolute time point from ~~said~~ the another apparatus in the ~~process~~ course of communication by the network communication module, the communication being at least one of (A) communication for sending a log representing a working status of the printing apparatus to the another apparatus, and (B) communication for receiving a printing file from the another apparatus; and

a base time setting module that sets the acquired absolute time point as ~~a base~~ the base time point ~~for specifying each time point, each time point being specified based on the elapsed time measured by said timer and the base time point.~~

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ printing apparatus in accordance with claim 1, said ~~device~~ printing apparatus further comprising:

a log recording module that records a log, which represents a working status of said ~~device~~ printing apparatus and is mapped to elapsed time measured by said timer and the base time point,

wherein said network communication module transmits the log to a predetermined server via the network, and

said time acquisition module acquires the absolute time point from said predetermined server in the course of transmission.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ printing apparatus in accordance with claim 2, wherein said log recording module corrects the elapsed time by taking into account a time interval specified from absolute time points acquired more than once and a measurement result of said timer corresponding to the specified time interval, and records the log.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ printing apparatus in accordance with claim 2, wherein a time interval of transmitting the log is longer than a time interval of recording the log.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ printing apparatus in accordance with claim 2, wherein said network communication module transmits the log with an address dynamically allocated to said ~~device~~ printing apparatus via the network.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ printing apparatus in accordance with claim 2, said ~~device~~ printing apparatus further comprising:

a working status detection module that outputs a continuously varying working status of said ~~device~~ printing apparatus as a discretely varying parameter value,

wherein said log recording module records the log at a specific time interval shorter than a minimum time interval that causes the discrete variation.

Claims 7-9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ printing apparatus in accordance with claim 1, said ~~device~~ printing apparatus outputting either of a sound and an image,

wherein said timer measures a time period since a power ON time of said ~~device~~ printing apparatus,

said network communication module receives an output file, which is to be output from said ~~device~~ printing apparatus, and

said time acquisition module receives the absolute time point, which is attached to the output file received by said network communication module.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ printing apparatus in accordance with claim 10, wherein said time acquisition module receives a latest update time of the output file, which is received by said network communication module, as the absolute time point.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ printing apparatus in accordance with claim 11, wherein the latest update time represents an absolute time point when a client has created the output file.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ printing apparatus in accordance with claim 11, wherein the output file is transmitted to said ~~device~~ printing apparatus via a predetermined file server, and

the latest update time represents an absolute time point when said predetermined file server has received the output file.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ printing apparatus in accordance with claim 10, wherein the absolute time point is included in the output file.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ printing apparatus in accordance with claim 1, said ~~device~~ printing apparatus not being equipped with a built-in real time clock, which works even in a power OFF state of said ~~device~~ printing apparatus.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ printing apparatus in accordance with claim 1, said ~~device~~ printing apparatus further comprising:

a time specification module that adds the measurement result of said elapsed time to the base time point and thereby specifies each time point,

wherein said base time setting module resets said timer to zero and updates the base time point, in response to acquisition of the absolute time point.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ printing apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein said timer is activated at a power ON time of said ~~device~~ printing apparatus and counts a time period since the power ON time as a relative time,

said network communication modules transmits data collected by said ~~device~~ printing apparatus as a report file to a reporting address server, and

said time acquisition module receives the absolute time point from said reporting address server, while said network communication module transmits the report file to said reporting address server.

Claim 18 (Canceled).

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): A printing system comprising a client that creates a print file and a printer that connects with said client,

said client comprising:

a print file generation module that creates the print file as a print job;

an absolute time information generation module that generates information on an absolute time point at a time point when the print file is created; and

a transmission module that transmits the created print file and the generated information on the absolute time point to said printer,

said printer comprising:

a timer that is activated at a power ON time of said printer and counts a time period since the power ON time as a relative time;

a network communication module that receives the print file transmitted from said client;

a time acquisition module that receives the information on the absolute time point, which is transmitted along with the print file; and

a time specification module that specifies each time point, based on the absolute time point received by said time acquisition module and elapsed time from a reception of the print file, the elapsed time being calculated using the relative time.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A ~~device~~ control method that controls a ~~device connecting with a network~~ printing apparatus, said ~~device~~ control method comprising the steps of:

activating a timer included in said ~~device~~ printing apparatus to measure an elapsed time based on a base time point;

communicating with another apparatus ~~connecting with the network to provide a specified service~~ via a network, wherein the another apparatus manages the printing apparatus;

acquiring an absolute time point from ~~said the~~ the another apparatus in the ~~process~~ course of communication the communicating with the another apparatus, the communicating being at least one of (A) communicating to send a log representing a working status of the printing apparatus to the another apparatus, and (B) communicating to receive a printing file from the another apparatus; and

setting the acquired absolute time point as ~~a base~~ the base time point ~~for specifying each time point, each time point being specified based on the elapsed time measured by said timer and the base time point.~~

Claims 21 and 22 (Canceled).

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A computer-readable storage medium in which a computer program for controlling a ~~device connecting with a network~~ printing apparatus is stored, said computer program comprising:

a first program code that activates a timer included in said ~~device~~ printing apparatus to measure an elapsed time based on a base time point;

a second program code that communicates with another apparatus ~~connecting with the network to provide a specified service~~ via a network, wherein the another apparatus manages the printing apparatus;

a third program code that acquires an absolute time point from ~~said~~ the another apparatus in the ~~process~~ course of communication with the another apparatus, the communication being at least one of (A) communication for sending a log representing a working status of the printing apparatus to the another apparatus, and (B) communication for receiving a printing file from the another apparatus; and

a fourth program code that sets the acquired absolute time point as ~~a base~~ the base time point for specifying each time point, ~~each time point being specified based on the elapsed time measured by said timer and the base time point.~~

Claims 24 and 25 (Canceled).